

**STATE OF MICHIGAN
MICHIGAN ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING SYSTEM
ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS FOR THE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

IN THE MATTER OF:

[REDACTED]

Reg. No.: 15-004256
Issue No.: 2009; 4009
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date: April 29, 2015
County: Ottawa

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Vicki Armstrong

HEARING DECISION

Following Claimant's request for a hearing, this matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge pursuant to MCL 400.9 and 400.37; 42 CFR 431.200 to 431.250; and 45 CFR 205.10. After due notice, a telephone hearing was held on April 29, 2015, from Lansing, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included her sister, [REDACTED], and Authorized Hearing Representative [REDACTED]. Participants on behalf of the Department of Health and Human Services (Department) included Hearing Facilitator [REDACTED].

ISSUE

Whether the Department properly denied Claimant's Medicaid (MA) and State Disability Assistance (SDA) application based on a finding that she was not disabled?

FINDINGS OF FACT

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the competent, material, and substantial evidence on the whole record, finds as material fact:

1. On January 21, 2015, Claimant submitted an application for MA/Retro-MA and SDA.
2. On March 11, 2015, the Department's Medical Review Team (MRT) denied disability status.
3. Claimant's self-requested appeal hearing disputing these decisions was held on April 29, 2015.
4. At hearing, Claimant's Authorized Hearing Representative testified that Claimant had been approved for SSI-disability.
5. The Department provided this presiding Administrative Law Judge with verification of the Partially Favorable Social Security Administration's (SSA's) decision finding Claimant was disabled with a benefit entitlement effective October 27, 2014, which is before Claimant filed her disputed MA/Retro-MA and SDA application (See Finding of Fact #1 above).

6. The Department stipulated on the record during the hearing that Claimant's SSA approval establishes a disability allowance for MA/Retro-MA and SDA eligibility purposes.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Medical Assistance (MA) program is established by Title XIX of the Social Security Act and is implemented by Title 42 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). The Department of Human Services (DHS or department) administers the MA program pursuant to MCL 400.10, *et seq.*, and MCL 400.105. Department policies are found in the Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), the Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) and the Reference Tables Manual (RFT).

The State Disability Assistance (SDA) program, which provides financial assistance for disabled persons, was established by 2004 PA 344. The Department administers the SDA program pursuant to 42 CFR 435, MCL 400.10 *et seq.* and Mich Admin Code, Rules 400.3151 – 400.3180. A person is considered disabled for SDA purposes if the person has a physical or mental impairment which meets federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) disability standards for at least ninety days. Receipt of SSI benefits based on disability or blindness, or the receipt of MA benefits based on disability or blindness, automatically qualifies an individual as disabled for purposes of the SDA program.

In the present case, the SSA's disability allowance, received while Claimant's appeal was pending, currently establishes Claimant is disabled and has been disabled at all times relevant to her January 21, 2015, MA/Retro-MA and SDA application.

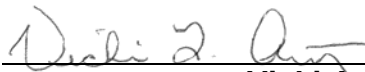
DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, decides the Department erred in determining Claimant is not disabled.

Accordingly, the Department's decision is **REVERSED**, and it is ORDERED that:

1. The Department shall approve MA/Retro-MA benefits back to October, 2014, and SDA benefits back to January, 2015, for Claimant as long as she is otherwise eligible to receive them.
2. Departmental review of Claimant's medical condition is not necessary as long as her SSA disability status continues.

It is **SO ORDERED**.



Vicki Armstrong
Administrative Law Judge
for Nick Lyon, Director
Department of Health and Human
Services

Date Signed: **4/30/2015**

Date Mailed: **4/30/2015**

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NOTICE OF APPEAL: A party may appeal this Hearing Decision in the circuit court in the county in which he/she resides, or the circuit court in Ingham County, within 30 days of the receipt date.

A party may request a rehearing or reconsideration of this Hearing Decision from the Michigan Administrative Hearing System (MAHS) within 30 days of the mailing date of this Hearing Decision, or MAHS may order a rehearing or reconsideration on its own motion.

MAHS may grant a party's Request for Rehearing or Reconsideration when one of the following exists:

- Newly discovered evidence that existed at the time of the original hearing that could affect the outcome of the original hearing decision;
- Misapplication of manual policy or law in the hearing decision which led to a wrong conclusion;
- Typographical, mathematical or other obvious error in the hearing decision that affects the rights of the client;
- Failure of the ALJ to address in the hearing decision relevant issues raised in the hearing request.

The party requesting a rehearing or reconsideration must specify all reasons for the request. MAHS will not review any response to a request for rehearing/reconsideration. A request must be *received* in MAHS within 30 days of the date this Hearing Decision is mailed.

A written request may be faxed or mailed to MAHS. If submitted by fax, the written request must be faxed to (517) 335-6088 and be labeled as follows:

Attention: MAHS Rehearing/Reconsideration Request

If submitted by mail, the written request must be addressed as follows:

Michigan Administrative Hearings
Reconsideration/Rehearing Request
P.O. Box 30639
Lansing, Michigan 48909-8139

cc:

